

Rather than have individual cloture on various amendments—we simply don't have time for that—I am going to file cloture on the bill. Those amendments on which we are having trouble getting votes will likely fall, as they are not germane to the subject matter at hand.

JOB CREATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I wish to talk a little bit about the House of Representatives yesterday passing our jobs bill. That was very important. We had a bipartisan jobs bill here. They have already sent us a message. We can work on that. Even though there may be people objecting to it, we can do that with one cloture vote. We will do that and interrupt the work we are doing when that message gets here. It is important because even though we have a short-term extension of the highway bill, this would extend it for 1 year, saving 1 million jobs. It is very important.

Build America Bonds—the Governors I met with, as I mentioned, a few days ago also really love our Build America Bonds, which is part of the American Recovery Act. The money is gone there. We are going to replenish that. This is important to Governors and local officials because it has done great things for creating jobs.

We also have a provision to allow people to be hired by employers if they are out of work for 60 days. They hire them for 30 hours a week. They do not have to pay their FICA tax, and at the end of the year they get a \$1,000 tax credit. This is going to create thousands and thousands of jobs across America.

One of the reasons I wanted to mention this specifically, the House voted this bill out yesterday. Virtually every Republican in the House voted against it.

I heard interviews on National Public Radio this morning. One Republican Congressman said this bill was so bad because we need small businesses to be able to write off purchases they make. I suggest to the man—whose name I know, but I will not try to embarrass him here—that he read the bill because if he read the bill he would understand that is one of the paramount provisions we have in this legislation. If a small business purchases something, they don't have to depreciate it. They can write it off up to \$250,000. That is terrific.

I had a telephonic conference call late last week explaining it to them. I had quite a few small businesses on the telephone. They love this. They are waiting to buy things. As soon as this is signed into law, they will run out that day and buy stuff. They need stuff. This will give them an incentive to do so.

I suggest to the person, who I guess rushed to the microphones to talk about how bad the bill was, that he should try reading it first. Maybe if he did that, he wouldn't be making a fool

of himself across America by talking about small businesses being able to write things off, when that is really in the bill.

UPCOMING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, when we finish this legislation, we hope to move to the Federal Aviation Administration legislation. We have had all over Capitol Hill—I am sure the Presiding Officer has had people from Oregon visit with him—people who run airports. They want this FAA bill so very much. Why? Because you would have to search hard for an airport in America that doesn't already have the design plans ready to do work on that airport. As soon as we pass this FAA bill, there will be lots of jobs. The first year, they estimate that as many as 150,000 jobs will come from our passing this legislation. There are runways that need to be resurfaced. There are all kinds of terminals that need to be built and refurbished. They are waiting to do this. More importantly, it will make American air travel much safer. I won't go into a lot of detail here, but most countries now use global positioning systems to determine where their aircraft are. It is modern. That is the way it is. Not in America. We are still using World War II radar. This legislation is very important. We are going to try to get to that very quickly.

We are going to do the jobs message from the House. We are going to do small business.

I had a long conversation with the distinguished Senator from Maine, Ms. SNOWE, who used to be chairman of the Small Business Committee and now is ranking member. We talked at some length. She is anxious, as we are, to move to this legislation. As I told her, don't think you are alone on this. I get calls from the White House several times a week about moving forward on another small business jobs package other than the one I just discussed.

We have a lot of work to do. We are trying to work out our differences with the House on the health care bill. We will be able to do that. There will be a decision made shortly as to how we will proceed on that.

I look forward to the week. It is a heavy schedule legislatively, but I think we are ready to do that. With all these important matters, it is very important that we return here next week with the anticipation that we will do some work to help America.

I say to my friends on the other side of the aisle, it appears we are breaking through and getting more done on a bipartisan basis. I certainly hope that is the case. Simply saying no, as has happened the last year and a half, has accomplished nothing for the country.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

TAX EXTENDERS ACT OF 2009

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4213, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4213) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provision, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Baucus amendment No. 3336, in the nature of a substitute.

Landrieu modified amendment No. 3335 (to amendment No. 3336) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend for 2 years the low-income housing credit rules for buildings in GO Zones, and for other purposes.

Reid (for Murray) modified amendment No. 3356 (to amendment No. 3336) to extend the TANF Emergency Fund through fiscal year 2011 and to provide funding for summer employment for youth.

Coburn amendment No. 3358 (to amendment No. 3336) to require the Senate to be transparent with taxpayers about spending.

Baucus (for Webb/Boxer) amendment No. 3342 (to amendment No. 3336) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on excessive 2009 bonuses received from certain major recipients of Federal emergency economic assistance, to limit the deduction allowable for such bonuses.

Feingold/Coburn amendment No. 3368 (to amendment No. 3336) to provide for the rescission of unused transportation earmarks and to establish a general reporting requirement for any unused earmarks.

Reid amendment No. 3417 (to amendment No. 3336) to temporarily modify the allocation of geothermal receipts.

McCain/Graham amendment No. 3427 (to amendment No. 3336) to prohibit the use of reconciliation to consider changes in Medicare.

Lincoln amendment No. 3401 (to amendment No. 3336) to improve a provision relating to emergency disaster assistance.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, we are now on our fifth day of consideration of this important legislation to create jobs and extend vital safety net and tax provisions.

As a reminder, this legislation would prevent millions of Americans from falling through the safety net. It would put cash into the hands of Americans who would spend it quickly, boosting economic demand. It would extend critical programs and tax incentives that create jobs.

We had another productive day on the bill yesterday. We conducted three rollcall votes on amendments. We adopted four amendments. As I count it, there are nine amendments pending.